

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3, 5-11, 13-16, 18-21, 24 and 27-43 are now pending. Claims 19-21 and 24 are amended herein.

The Office Action requires restriction between two different groups, Group I (claims 1-3, 5-11, 13-16, 18-20, 27-41 and 43) and Group II (claims 19-21, 24 and 42). The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the restriction. Applicants have amended claims 19-21 and 24 (the Group II claims) herein to contain all the features of the Group I claims.

The Examiner also states in the Office Action that there would be a serious search and examination burden if restriction were not required. However, there is no serious burden because Group II claims 19-21 and 24 have already been examined on the merits. Claim 42 has not been previously examined on the merits. However, claim 42 depends from claim 20 which has been previously examined on the merits.

Consequently, Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement and ask that it be withdrawn. However, as required under 35 USC 121, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-3, 5-11, 13-16, 18-20, 27-41 and 43.

Please consider this to be a Petition for Extension of Time for three (3) months. If any additional fees are occasioned by this Response, the Director is hereby authorized to charge them to, or to credit, Deposit Account 08-2442 of the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: April 16, 2010

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